

INFORMATION SHARING CONFERENCE

Pursuant to MCL 722.956, prior to the adoptive placement, the adoption agency must conduct a conference with the prospective adoptive parent(s). The purpose of the conference is to review and discuss the information listed below that must be provided to the prospective adoptive parent(s).

- Disclose to the prospective adoptive parent(s) all information known by or available to the adoption agency regarding the adoptee's medical and psychological needs.
- Prepare and provide to the prospective adoptive parent(s) a list of the adoptee's medical and psychological needs that are identified and discussed during the conference.
- Prepare written verification for the signatures of the adoption agency worker and the prospective adoptive parent(s) that the conference was held and information was provided as required. Provide a copy of the written verification to the prospective adoptive parent(s). The DHS-4818, Verification of Information Provided to Adoptive Parents, must be used for this purpose. The adoption worker and prospective adoptive parent(s) must sign the form. The adoption agency worker must retain a copy of the signed form in the case record.

Information That Must be Provided

Prior to, or at the conference, the adoption agency must provide prospective adoptive parent(s) with written copies, other than those portions made confidential by state or federal law (see SRM 131, Confidentiality), of all of the following regarding the prospective adoptee:

Note: Identifying information in documents must be redacted.

- The petition or petitions that resulted in each placement of the child.
- Initial and all updated case service plans concerning the child that were compiled during each foster care placement, whether in foster care, adoption or otherwise.

- The adoptee's non-identifying information. A copy of the non-identifying information section of the child adoption assessment and all addenda must be provided to the prospective adoptive parent(s). If the child adoption assessment does not contain all of the required information listed below, then the missing information must be provided in a separate written document.
 - Date, time and place of birth of the child including the hospital, city, county and state.
 - Prenatal care.
 - Medical conditions at birth.
 - Any psychological evaluation of the child while under court jurisdiction.
 - A record of immunizations and health care received in foster care.
 - Any neglect or physical, sexual or emotional abuse suffered by the child.
 - Any drug or medication taken by the child's mother during pregnancy. Any subsequent medical, psychological, psychiatric or dental examination and diagnoses of the child.
 - Any known hereditary condition or disease.
 - The health of each parent at the child's birth.
 - Cause of death and age at death if a parent is deceased.
 - A summary of the findings of any medical, psychological or psychiatric evaluations of either parent at the time of placement.
 - First name of the child at birth.
 - The age and sex of siblings of the child.
 - School enrollment and performance, results of educational testing and any special education needs.
 - The child's racial, ethnic and religious background.

- Age of the child's parents at the time parental rights were terminated.
- Length of time the parents had been married at the time of placement (if applicable).
- The child's past and current relationship with any relative, foster parent or other individual or facility (do not include names or addresses of individuals).
- Levels of education and occupational, professional, athletic or artistic achievement of the child's family.
- Hobbies, special interests and school activities of the child's family.
- The circumstances of any judicial order terminating the parental rights of a parent for abuse, neglect or abandonment of the child.
- Length of time between the termination of parental rights and adoptive placement and whether the termination was voluntary or court-ordered.
- Information required to determine the child's eligibility for government benefits.

Information that cannot be reasonably obtained prior to placement of the child must be provided to the adoptive parent(s) at the time of placement and up to the time of finalization, if reasonably obtainable. All efforts to obtain information must be documented in social work contacts.